

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-38.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-4, 7, 9-15, 17-20, 24-28, 31, 33, and 35-38.

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: 5-6, 8, 16, 21-23, 29-30, 32, and 34.

Amended claims: 1-2, 7, 9, 15, 20, 25-28, 31, 33, 35-38.

New claims: None

Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:
receiving a message at a routing node in an overlay network; and
generating a routing policy for a sending node based at least in part on
content of the message, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for
redirecting messages based at least in part on the content of the message;
returning the routing policy to the sending node; and
forwarding the message to another node in the overlay network.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying the address of the message, and generating the routing policy based on the modified address.

3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising passing the message to the application level at the routing node to process the message.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein generating the routing policy is at an application level in the routing node.

5. – 6. (Canceled)

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:
identifying by a node at least one routing policy for a message ~~based on~~
~~content of the message, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for~~
~~redirecting messages based at least in part on content of the body of the~~
~~message;~~ and
changing an address in the message to bypass at least one node in an
overlay network based on the at least one routing policy; and
issuing the message directly to a destination node in the overlay network.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising iteratively applying by the node a plurality of routing policies to the message, each of the plurality of routing policies modifying the address in the message.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising receiving the at least one routing policy at a sending node in the overlay network.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising receiving a plurality of routing policies at a sending node from a plurality of routing nodes in the overlay network.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein identifying at least one routing policy is based at least in part on the address of the message.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising applying a transport policy to the message after changing the address in the message.

14. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising applying a transport policy to the message only after applying each identified routing policy to the message.

15. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a routing node receiving a message in an overlay network;

routing table operatively associated with the routing node; and

a message processor at the routing node, the message processor generating a routing policy for a sending node of the message ~~based at least in part on content of the message, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for redirecting messages based at least in part on content of the body of the message, the message processor generating the routing policy based on entries in the routing table.~~

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the routing node includes a messaging level and an application level, the routing node generating the routing policy at the application level.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the routing node includes a messaging level and an application level, the routing node returning the routing policy to the sending node at the messaging level.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the routing node includes a messaging level and an application level, the routing node forwarding the message to another node in the overlay network at the messaging level.

20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

at least one routing policy for a message, wherein the at least one routing policy is generated by at least one routing node in the overlay network, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for redirecting messages;

a policy manager to identify the at least one routing policy to the messaging module based at least in part on content of the body of the message;

and

a messaging module changing an address in the message at the sending node to bypass at least one node in an overlay network based on the at least one routing policy so that the message is issued directly to a destination node in the overlay network.

21. – 23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising a transport policy identifying a transport protocol for the message based on the address in the message.

25. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product encoding~~
computer program storage medium storing a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process, the computer process comprising:

receiving a message at a routing node in an overlay network; and

generating a routing policy for a sending node of the message ~~based at least in part on content of the message, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for redirecting messages based at least in part on content of the body of the message;~~

returning the routing policy to the sending node; and

forwarding the message to another node in the overlay network.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 25 wherein the computer process further comprises identifying an address to route the message, and generating the routing policy based on the address.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 25 wherein the computer process further comprises passing the message to the application level at the routing node to process the message.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer program product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 25 wherein the computer process further comprises generating the routing policy at an application level in the routing node.

29. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product encoding~~ computer program storage medium storing a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process, the computer process comprising:

identifying at least one routing policy for a message ~~based on content of the message, wherein the routing policy comprises instructions for redirecting messages based at least in part on content of the body of the message; and~~

changing an address in the message to bypass at least one node in an overlay network based on the at least one routing policy;

issuing the message in the overlay network directly to a destination node;
and
sending the at least one routing policy to a sending node in the overlay
network.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-program-product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 31 wherein the computer process further comprises iteratively applying a plurality of routing policies to the message, each of the plurality of routing policies changing the address in the message.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-program-product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 31 wherein the computer process further comprises ~~receiving~~ sending a plurality of routing policies ~~[[at]]~~ to a sending node from a plurality of routing nodes in the overlay network.

36. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-program-product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 31 wherein the computer process further

comprises identifying at least one routing policy based at least in part on the address in the message.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer—program—product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 31 wherein the computer process further comprises applying a transport policy to the message after changing the address in the message.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer—program—product~~ computer program storage medium of claim 31 wherein the computer process further comprises applying a transport policy to the message only after applying each identified routing policy to the message.